

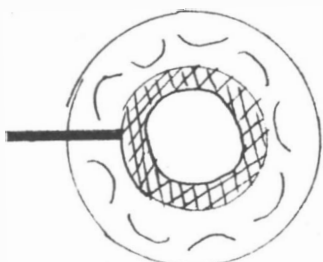
new england *UFO* newsletter

WHOLE NUMBER 20

OCTOBER 1980

DAYLIGHT DISC APPEARS TO DESCEND TOWARD RADIO TELESCOPE.

investigated by Ray Fowler



Front View
(husband)



Side View
(wife)

Date of sighting: October 6, 1980

Time of sighting: 5:50 PM EDT

Place of sighting: Ipswich, Massachusetts

Local evaluation: Unknown-Daylight Disc

Since the couple do not want their names used we will refer to them as H (husband) and W (wife).

H was out on the sun deck and noticed the sun flashing off the surface of an object in the air. He was facing in the direction of Plum Island (east). At first, he thought he was viewing an airplane but as it tumbled and descended like a falling leaf, slowly approaching, he realized it was not an aircraft. It was round and described as "cylindrical" although this is not evident from the sketches, and its tumbling was end-over-end.

H ran inside, alerted his wife and both emerged (one carrying a pair of 7x50 binoculars) in time to observe the object as it traveled directly overhead. The object was still moving slowly enough so that at least one of the two could observe it with the binoculars. After passing over the couple it appeared to descend toward the Sagamore Hill Radio Telescope Installation and was lost to view behind trees.

Ray Fowler was informed of the sighting at 6:15 PM by W. His calls to various agencies brought forth no additional witnesses. His report indicates that the object could not have been windborn since it was travelling against the wind in its approach.

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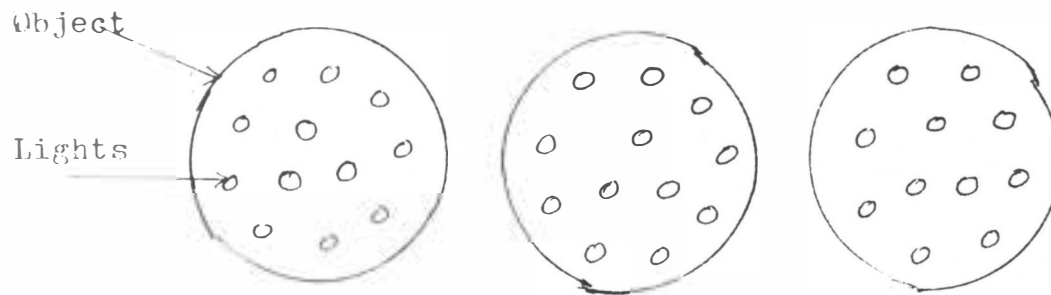
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EDITOR'S COMMENT

The Worcester case, continued, is typical of a dilemma that many times confronts investigators of UFO reports. There are cases that can not neatly be characterized as unknowns or knowns for one reason or another. Very often the investigator will make a judgement based on a gut feeling that may really be indicative of his or her personal bias as to whether a case belongs in the UFO category or not. The editor feels that the category "Insufficient Information" should be used legitimately as a case characterization (Major Keyhoe protect me)! Although seemingly a way out of a tough judgement, the bias that may be brought by the investigator to any given case will still cause the "pros" to call UFO rather than IIFO and the "cons" to call IFO rather than IIFO. Still, the fact that this additional category exists and is considered as an alternative, may cause unknowns to become more sharply defined with the steady accumulation of sharply defined cases. At least, it would not be asking too much to hope so.

LIGHTS IN THE RAIN AT MARS HILL, MAINE.

"Lights were white in circular order" (witness).

Date of sighting: May 14, 1980

Time of sighting: 9:15 PM, EDT

Place of Sighting: Mars Hill, Maine

Mr. John P. Day, 33, a resident of Hamilton, Mass., was traveling in his car near Mars Hill, Maine. Visibility was very poor as he travelled through the rain. Suddenly, he noticed lights that went by his car and hovered ahead. Thinking at first that he was viewing a low-flying aircraft, Day stopped his car and got out to watch. They hovered, perfectly still, in close formation. Suddenly, they "took off" at "incredible speed" from a standstill and disappeared. Three objects, each including lights, were noted.

Day estimated his total time of observation at about five minutes but even given that relatively long length of time he was apparently too shocked and awed (as he described himself) to try to count the number of lights that he was observing.

Each of the objects, which Day characterizes as having outlines, were estimated to be twice the size of a full moon. At one point, he notes, they seemed to descend. There were no sounds noted, at least no mention is made of sounds in the report form that Day filled out and submitted to Ray Fowler (and thence to MUFON) upon Day's return to Massachusetts.

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Credits- The editor would like to express his thanks to Joe Santangelo, Massachusetts State Director for MUFON, for making available copies of reports that he receives for inclusion in this Newsletter. Joe is the first to realize that only wide spread public dissemination of UFO information can contribute to the solution of that mystery that has occupied the time and efforts of so many for so long.

In addition to the Mars Hill report, the availability of the cover report from Ipswich is due to him.

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Worcester, Mass., July 12, 1980 (continued from previous issue).

by Joe Nyman

In our issue of July 1980, we left open the possibility that the case described on pages 1 and 2 might be other than an unknown, pending further investigation.

Additional interviews were conducted with the other known witnesses in the case on September 20, 1980. These witnesses were Timothy Bump, age 10, and sisters Danise Loewe, 11 Laurie Loewe, 10, and Becky Loewe, 9. Tim lives at 41 Barclay St., the same address as our initial witness, William Evans. The Loewe sisters live directly across the street.

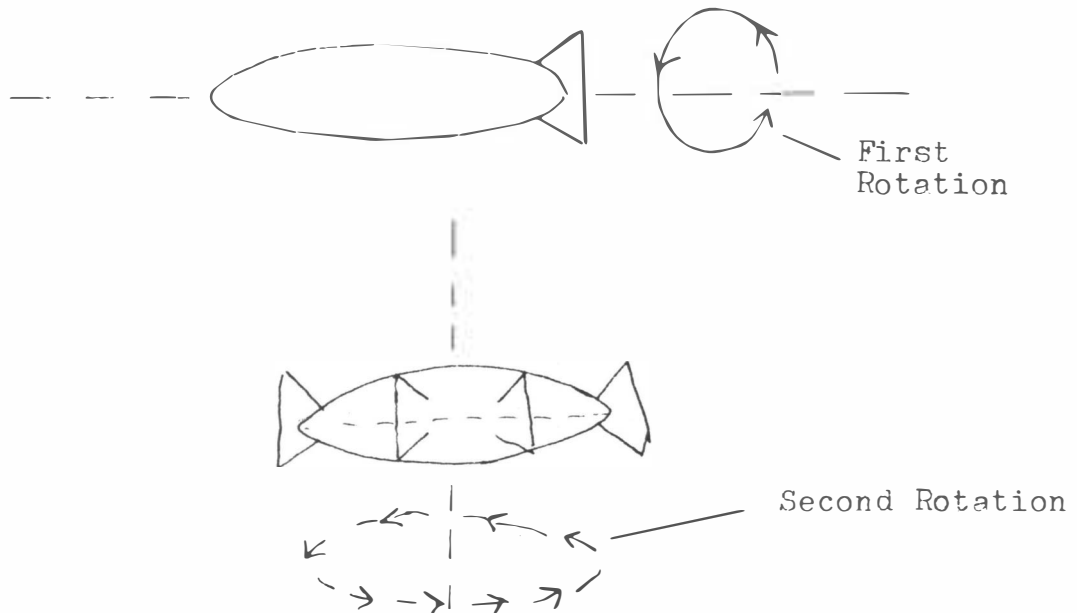
Tim was initially interviewed alone, as the investigator found him first upon arriving in the neighborhood. He, in the presence of his father and the investigator, sketched what he had seen and related what had happened. The father accepted his son's story without question. Tim and the investigator then went across the street and found the Loewe sisters at home. Each was independently asked to draw what she had seen and then all together told their experience. It was impossible to conduct the interviews with the girls separately because of the small space in which the investigator was able to talk with the girls and Tim together. Next, the four children and the investigator tried to reenact the events of July 12, in the street, as the children claimed they experienced them.

After listening closely to the children's enthusiastic presentation--full of simultaneous, wide-eyed exclamations, and later--runnings-to-and-fro along the street as they tried to indicate what they had seen and done--and comparing all this with the story of the adult witness--it became clear that the stories of the children and the adult formed a complementary whole, as follows:

On July 12, 1980, in the early evening before sunset, the four children were playing at the corner of a vacant lot adjacent to 41 Barclay St. (point X on the sketch map). At a time estimated to be between 7:10-7:15 PM EDT, their attention was caught by an object in the northeast that they first thought was a large balloon. It was emitting a humming sound. The children soon concluded that they were watching a UFO (first verbalized by Tim) as the object hovered briefly at an elevation of 40 degrees, and close enough to seem to be over the rooftops of the houses across the street (point A on the sketch map).

Curious features were noted, such as what appeared to be a red, or orange rudder and white or yellow "windows" (see children's sketches), and the boy and three girls became excited and started to yell as the object inverted itself (that is, it turned on its long axis, presumably close to 180 degrees), and began to rotate (apparently clockwise, as seen from underneath).

around an axis perpendicular to the ground.



It was during the second rotation that the children claim the object released a small green or green and white object which fell out of sight behind the rooftops of the houses below. Tim was disappointed at the lack of a parachute.

By this time, the children were making enough noise so that seven year old Scott Evans was drawn to his bedroom window on the second floor of 41 Barclay St. to see what all the commotion was about. Scott was not able to attract his father's attention in time for Mr. Evans to see the object return to its original orientation, but the senior Evans arrived soon enough to see the object begin to move in a direction that seemed to be directly east, but was really southeast.

As it moved off, Tim and one of the Loewe sisters pursued it up Barclay St. as far as Dorchester St. (point Y on sketch map) where it was lost to sight behind rooftops. This was also approximately the point at which Evans lost sight of the object (point C on the sketch map).

Two sisters had stayed behind near the vacant lot (point X on the sketch map) and, as the two pursuers were returning down Barclay St., the waiting girls, looking up in the east, saw the object returning in the opposite direction, and, once again, being

quickly lost to sight behind rooftops, (point D on sketch map).

So ends the composite event as put together by the investigator.

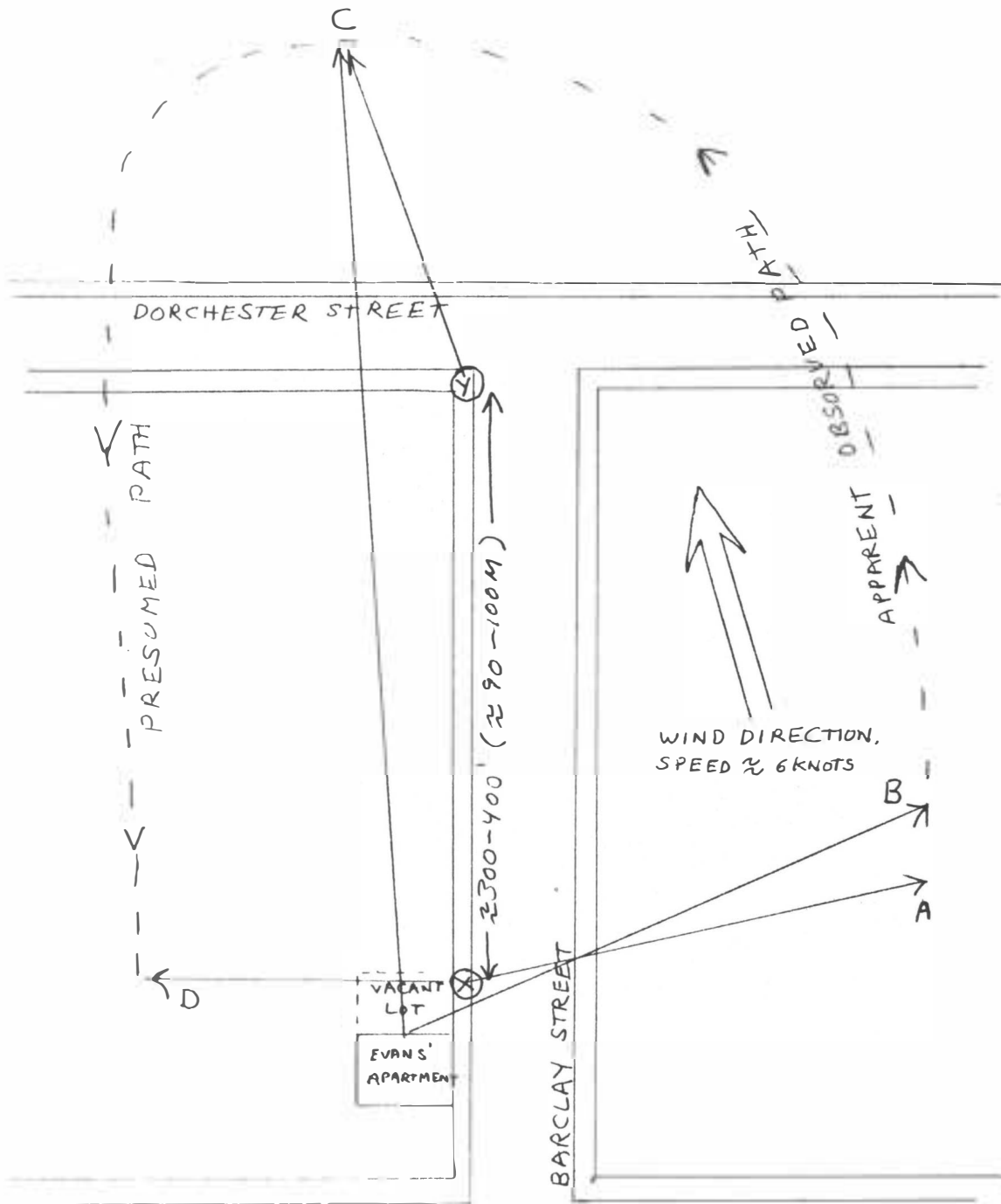
Man Made Object Check

Despite the fact that the object was reported to be moving against the observed wind direction at one point in the sighting relation, a check was made with three weather observation agencies to ascertain the possible presence of weather balloons. Neither the U. S. Army teams at Maynard nor Fort Devons had equipment in the air at that time, nor did the U. S. Weather service at Worcester. The nearest additional agency was located at Albany, New York.

The fact that the children had reported a rudder-like appendage and had heard a humming sound suggested the possibility that they had been observing the flight of a radio-controlled model aircraft from a nearby field, (the campuses of Worcester Academy and Union Hill School are nearby as is the playground associated with Worcester Junior High School). The investigator spoke with an acquaintance who claimed to be knowledgeable in the field of radio-controlled aircraft. He estimated that the maneuvers reported were beyond the capabilities of current day radio-controlled models. Additionally, the investigator visited a local hobby shop where he was told there were no UFO radio-controlled kits on the market. A quick check through a late issue magazine devoted to radio control models brought nothing additional to light other than the availability of a radio-controlled helicopter, which presumably would not be able to remain in the air when inverted. However, the investigator cannot be sure of the flight characteristics of this type of model.

Assesment

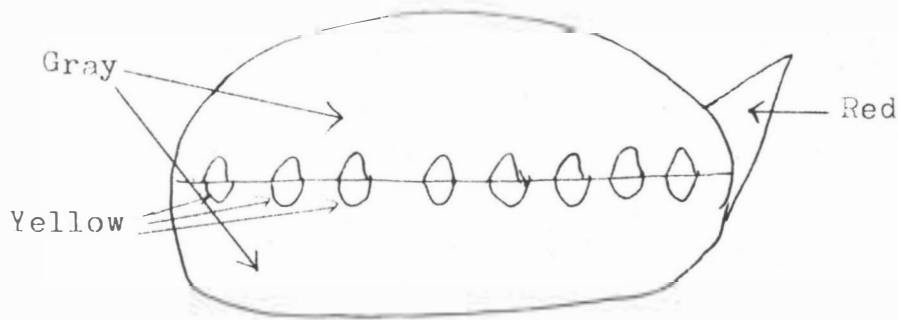
Here is a case of an unusual object, making noise, and flying low over a densely populated neighborhood in a large city, in daylight. Only one call was made to a public agency, that could be traced-a very puzzling situation. Was this really a case of a model aircraft that was identifiable to enough people so that no one else was alarmed, or was it truly another case of a UFO under everyone's nose (or more properly, over everyone's head) without the notice of most? The ages and backgrounds of the witnesses do not give sufficient reason for a strong "unknown" label, nor can we conclude the opposite. At the risk of reader's groans, the investigator can only conclude that there is insufficient information on which to base a firm conclusion, and that this is, what might be called, a possible unknown (and just as properly a possible known).



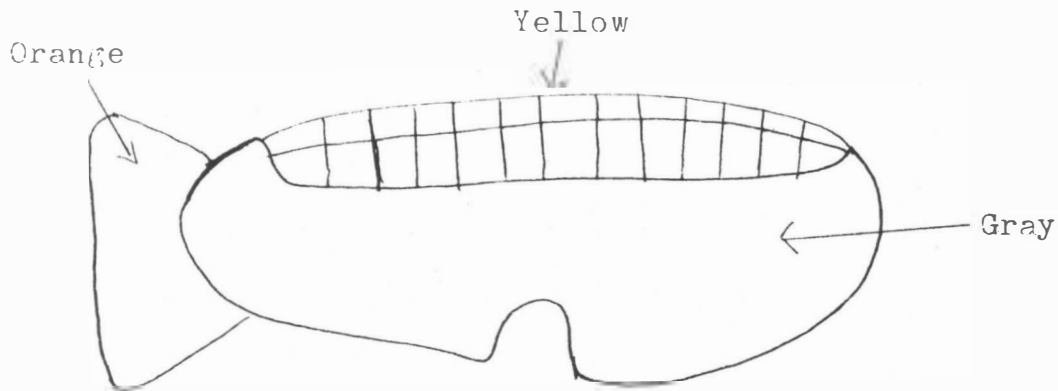
- ⊗ Children's position when object first seen at A.
- ⊙ Position of two pursuers when object lost from sight at C.
- D Object last seen by two children remaining at X.
- B Direction in which object first seen by Evans.
- C Approximate position at which Evans and two pursuing children lost sight of object.
- A Direction in which four playing children first saw object.

Worcester, Mass., July 12, 1980

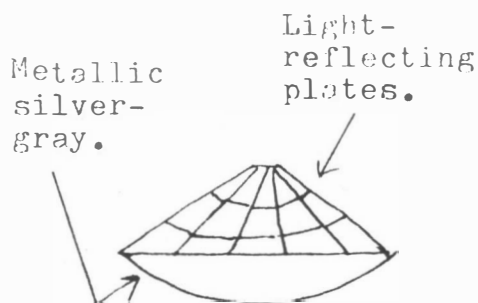
Worcester object of July 12, 1980 as sketched by two of the children. Sketches done September 20, 1980.



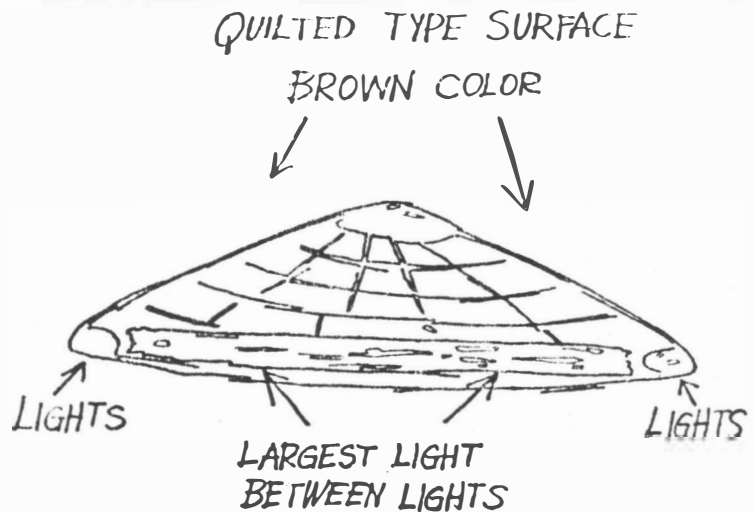
Timothy Bump, aged 10



Danise Loewe, aged 11.



William Evans' drawing of Worcester object, done July 22, 1980 compared to drawing of object near Ann Arbor, Michigan, March 18, 1966.



Reproduced from UFOs, A Pictorial History, by David C. Knight, McGraw Hill, 1979.

RECENT BRIEF REPORTS FROM THE INVESTIGATIONS OF STEVE PUTNAM.

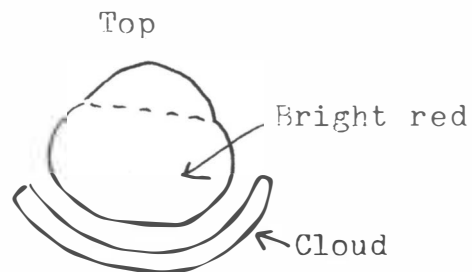
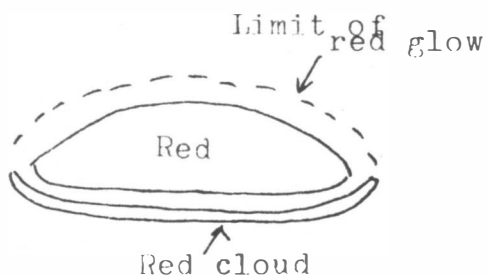
Local readers know Steve as a professional engineer, president emeritus of the New England UFO Study Group, and an enthusiastic UFO investigator and researcher, with roots that go back to the early beginnings of the UFO phenomenon. Still quite active, Steve has been kind enough to submit the following for the record:

Randolph, Mass., September 5, 1980, 5:30 PM, EDT.

On an overcast, somewhat foggy evening, three teenagers, Adam Kantrovitz, 15, his brother Scott, 19, and friend Paul Burroughs, 13, observed a circular, red glowing object. Adam and Paul saw the object first through the window of Adam's room for about 30 seconds before it vanished in place. Their initial estimates of apparent size at arms-length were 7" (19cm.) and 4 1/2" (11.5cm.) respectively but two months later, Adam compared the size to about 1/4 of a full moon, which seems a drastic reduction.

The two friends now went outside and, with Scott, viewed the light once more for about 30 seconds, after which it vanished in place once more. The three then saw what appeared to be the same object once more, a long distance away. It was the same color (blood-red) and blinking and moving away in a large arc or long sweep. It slowed down and suddenly vanished in place at an estimated 10 degrees elevation. A faint rumble and humming sounds were heard.

When viewed at its closest the bottom of the object was flat and the top was rounded (see witness' sketches). The edge also was rounded. The bottom appeared to be perfectly horizontal. It did not rotate and what appeared to be a transparent cloud was observed under the object.



Witness Sketches

Adam Kantrovitz

Paul Burroughs

(continued next page)

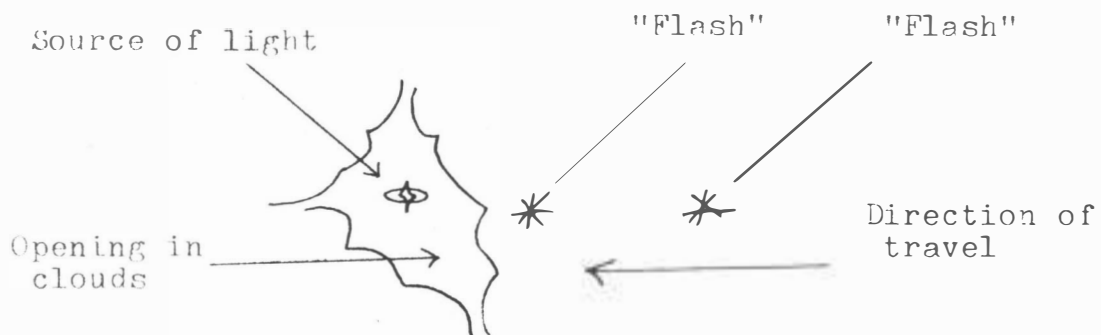
(Randolph, Mass., continued)

On Saturday morning, Sept. 6, 1980 at 3:00 AM, EDT, Jennifer Ross, 19, who lives opposite the Kantrovitzes, was returning home from a party. Arriving at her house she heard the following sequence of sounds: bleep, bleep, bleep, bloop, bloop, bloop, followed by a quick whirr, whirr, whirr. Alarmed, she ran inside. The sounds seemed to come from behind Adam's house.

As of two months following the sighting, Adam reports no other unusual happenings on or around his premises.

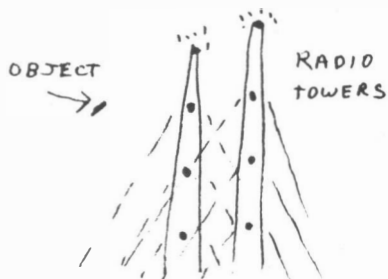
Pembroke, Mass., July 8, 1980, Dusk.

Under a very cloudy sky, Mr. Greg Roach observed a bright purplish-white light like a strobe light, flashing periodically every 2.5 seconds, and proceeding in a straight line from NW to SE. It appeared to be below the clouds but its source couldn't be seen until a patch of clear sky allowed the witness to observe a football-shaped object as it passed.



Hull, Mass., April 11, 1980, 6:15-6:20 PM, EDT.

Mr. Steve Shuman observed an unusual object hovering and rocking near the WBZ radio towers (in the western sky).



Witness's enlarged impression of object.

Fort Benning, Georgia, January, 1980, about 1:00 AM, EST?

John Zaniboni, while on guard duty, saw a reddish-orange glowing object that hovered at low altitude and then sped away upwards at a 45 degree angle. The object hovered for what seemed like five minutes.



From witness's sketch.

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STURBRIDGE REVISITED-APRIL 6, 1980.

Readers of our July, 1980 issue will remember the report of the flyover just outside the Sturbridge exit (Route 86) of Mass. Interstate 90 (The Massachusetts Turnpike).

We now learn from the IUFOR section of Frontiers of Science magazine (Sept-Oct 1980) that just three days later, at almost exactly the same time and place there was another report labeled a CE I, (UFO seen within 500 feet).

Because the contents of the magazine are copyright we will attempt to summarize the report as best we can. Incidentally, the location in IUFOR is given as Sturbridge, Connecticut, but there is no Sturbridge, Connecticut, while the relation of the story makes it clear that the sighting took place just outside the tollgate in Mass., just as did the Marcil case of April 3rd.

On April 6, 1980 at 9 PM, EST, William Meara, 29, his wife and their baby had just passed through the Route 86 exit of the Mass. Turnpike, traveling southwest. Meara observed a red blur in the clear night sky which resolved itself into a 30' main disc with two outboard discs somewhat smaller in size. The trio passed directly over the car at a height estimated at only thirty feet. Although Mr. Meara stuck his head out of the window he could hear no sound. The UFO moved in the direction of the tollbooth but then started to climb at a 45 degree angle until out of sight.

The article continues, that although the Mearas were preceded at the tollbooth by "twenty other cars" no other witnesses came forward.

When Mr. Meara tried to start his '77 Oldsmobile, Cutlass 30 minutes after the sighting, it "acted completely dead" yet started well the next morning. Larry Fawcett, CUFOS investigator was unable to identify the object as anything conventional.

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AN INTERESTING REPORT--UPTON, MA., MONDAY, MAY 9, 1938.

Thanks again to Barry Greenwood we were able to look up the following provoking report in the Milford Daily News of Tuesday, May 10, 1938.

Barry's clipping service included a recent item in which a stringer for the Milford Daily News had summerized the 1938 report. The News reporter had come across the item in doing research for his regular column.

What follows is the full original report.

UPTON, May 10--A group of Upton Center young men returned here very early this morning, their clothes torn and their faces and hands scratched from the heavy underbrush in the North Upton woods. They had been trying to find the source of some strange lights that appeared at intervals in the sky. Last night they walked further than usual and were in North Upton, about a quarter of a mile from the Westboro town line when darkness overtook them. They were tired from walking and sat on a wall for about half an hour, resting.

Suddenly, one of the group noticed this strange light, above the trees in the woods to their left. A white luminous object seemed to drift lazily skyward, much in the same manner as a parachute drifts earthward and then suddenly it would burst into a blinding white light and disappear. The Upton Center hikers plunged into the heavy underbrush in the direction of the lights. They travelled about a mile in the direction of the lights and estimate that they were about a half mile from where the lights were appearing. The lights, they say, were drifting skyward at about one per minute. While they were watching, the lights suddenly increase (sic) and about 25 of them went skyward with scarcely a second between them and then ceased altogether.

The young men estimated the source of the lights to be about half a mile away and they continued to the spot which in their judgement was the source of the strange sight. In the darkness of the woods they were unable to find any trace of where the lights came from but the area was smoky and heavy with a strange scent, which none of the hikers could define.

They returned here in a dilapidated state but plan to return to the scene again tonight if the weather is favorable. They also plan to pitch a tent in the woods Friday night at the spot where they think the lights originated and spend the week-end there.

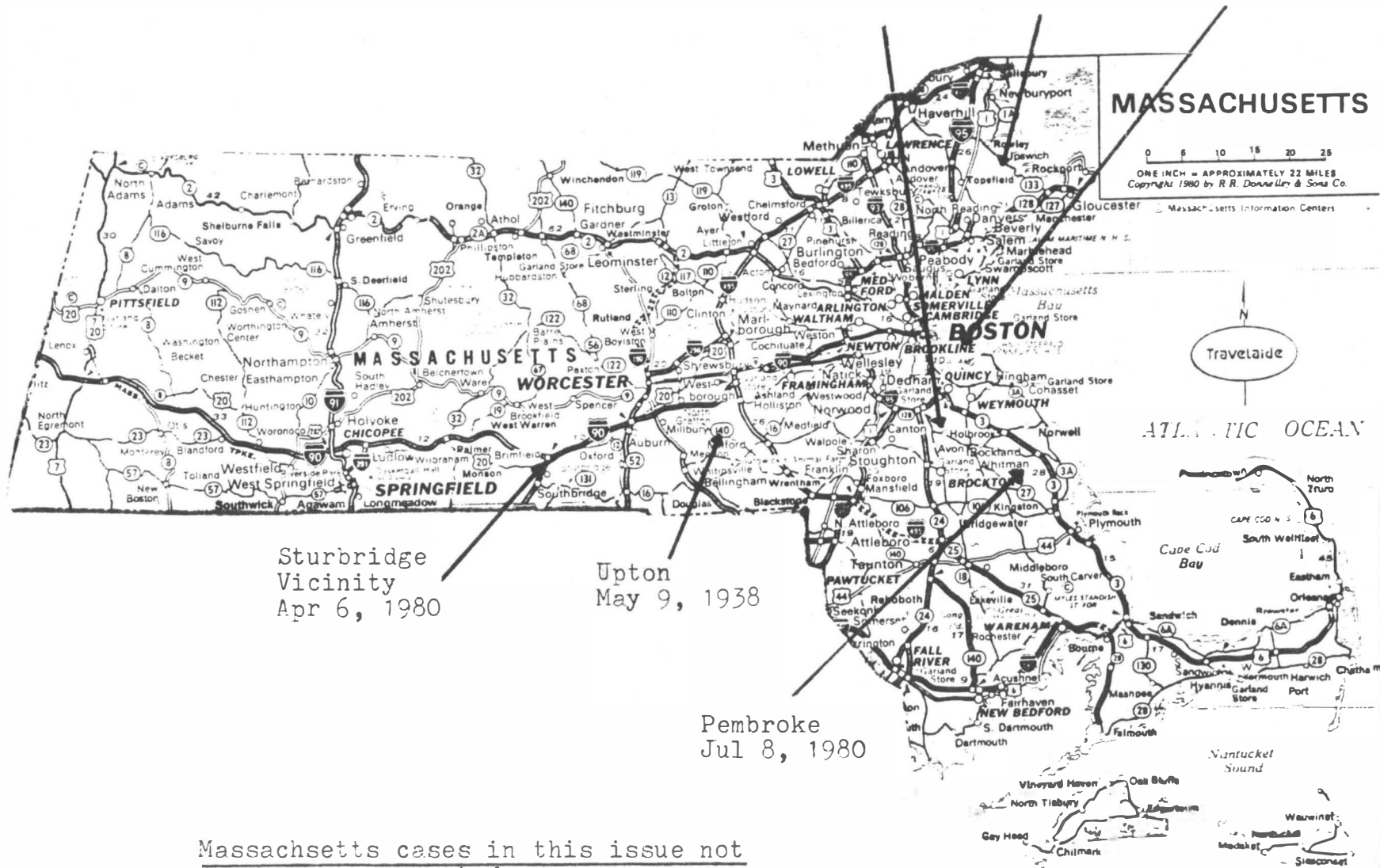
UPTON, May 13--A group of Upton Center youths will take a tent and provisions to North Upton to the spot where they saw the strange lights emerging from the ground several nights ago. They plan to spend the weekend on the spot where they saw the strange lights floating lazily toward the sky.

(No further references appeared in the following days--Ed.)

Randolph
Sep 5, 1980

Ipswich
Oct 6, 1980

Hull
Apr 11, '80



ANOTHER CASE WITH MAGNIFICATION EFFECTS

Readers of the July, 1980 Newsletter will remember the report from San Pietro Avellana, Italy, in which magnification field effects were noted.

As a result of reading that report, Brent Raynes has forwarded a clip of a 1969 case in which magnification effects were also reported. Brent also remembers that it appeared in an early issue of SKYLOOK, now the MUFON JOURNAL, as follows.

Source: The Courier Post, Hannibal, Missouri, Thursday, March 6, 1969.
Title: UFO SIGHTINGS EXCITE CITIZENS AROUND MACON

MACON, Mo. (AP) - Northeast Missouri has had a flurry of unidentified flying object reports on three nights this week; and William Overstreet of Elmer, Mo., says after his experience he is not the skeptic he once was.

Overstreet tells of driving directly under a mysterious, hovering object on his way to work early Tuesday morning.

"I just don't know. I never saw anything like it," Overstreet said.

The UFO activity started Sunday night at Kirksville.

Overstreet is a 50-year-old contract mail carrier who formerly was night marshall at Elmer. He tells a graphic story of his encounter Tuesday morning.

He was on his way to work about 6:40, just after sunrise, and was on Macon County Route J about four miles west of its intersection with US 63 near Atlanta, Mo., when he saw an unusually bright light to the south.

Overstreet described it as a reddish ball about 100 feet in diameter, so bright that he pulled down the visor in his truck and shielded his eyes over his head. He said there seemed to be a yellow border around the outside that moved clockwise. There was no noise, and it cruised about 30 feet above the road ahead of him at 40 miles an hour.

Overstreet said as he got beneath the object there was a beam of white light that focused into a spot about eight feet in diameter on the road and everything seen through it was magnified. (Editor's underlining.)

Overstreet said the object finally veered to the north and circled to the southeast, still going slowly and close to the ground.

Overstreet later retraced his route, stopping at farm houses to ask the occupants if they had seen anything. He could find no one who had.

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A FORTUAN ICE FALL IN HOLLISTON, MASSACHUSETTS

The Middlesex News, Wed., Sept. 10, 1980

Ice ball mystery still up in air

By **ROBERT SCHNEIDER**

News Staff Writer

HOLLISTON — Local police told him he could have been killed, but cannot explain what happened.

Three balls of ice — one as large as a softball, the other two as large as baseballs — came crashing to earth, suddenly without warning.

Twelve-year-old John McClennan was working in the driveway to his Bonney Drive home Aug. 26 at about 11:45 a.m. when he heard the "whoosh" and saw a white blurred image of the objects hitting the ground 20 feet away.

His mother, Claire, said he ran into the house, terrified.

"I ran inside. I thought I was crazy," he said.

When they came outside to investigate, they found three balls of ice with a mysterious yellowish surface and a pink center, Mrs. McClennan said.

Their dog, Muffy, barked and sniffed excitedly, and had to be restrained from licking the objects, she said.

They carried the objects on a shovel, took them inside, and put them in the freezer.

Upon examining the depressions in the ground at the point of impact, the police said John or the dog could have been killed by the force of the falling

objects, according to Mrs. McClennan.

The police took the ice balls to the State Police for a laboratory analysis.

The State Police Tuesday said the balls are 99 percent water and 1 percent vegetable matter, according to Holliston Police Officer Bruce McKinnon.

McKinnon said he cannot explain what the objects are, or where they had come from.

"We have no answers. They just landed there," he said.

McKinnon speculated that the ice balls could have been dropped from a

(Continued on 15A)

(Continued from 1A)

plane, or could be part of some kind of hoax.

John said he does not remember seeing or hearing any airplanes at the time, although he conceded that one may have passed by.

A spokesman for the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) said Holliston is not in the path of any regular air traffic routes used by commercial jets or private planes.

"A plane would have to be about five miles off course to be over Holliston," said Stan McDonnough, FAA deputy public affairs officer.

He noted that federal law prohibits the dropping of any object from a plane.

McDonnough said that planes

traveling through arctic weather conditions accumulate ice that could fall to earth. However, this ice comes in sheets — is not spherical — and would not contain vegetable matter, he said.

Mrs. McClennan said the ice balls could not have been hail stones because of their color.

She said the police joked that God was sending the earth "mai tais" (a frozen cocktail).

Although Holliston police have yet to receive a final written report on the chemical analysis of the objects, they now downplay the incident as "nothing much."

But how the ice balls fell out of nowhere and what they are remains unexplained, leaving the McClennans wondering about a near-miss which could have been a fatal incident.